

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: P. A. Billing-Medel, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/049,696

Filed: March 27, 1998

For: REAGENTS AND METHODS
USEFUL FOR DETECTING
DISEASES OF THE
GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT

Examiner: J. Kerr

Group Art Unit: 1633

Case No.: 6067.US.P1

Date: November 1, 2000



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8 (a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

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Date of Deposit: November 13, 2000

Wanda C. Smith
Wanda E. Smith

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated July 6, 2000. Claims 1-6, 11, 15, 17 and 18 are being examined on their merits. This response is accompanied by a request for a two month extension of time which therefore extends the time period for this response from October 6, 2000 to December 6, 2000.

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims the claims as follows:

B1
1. (Twice Amended) A purified polynucleotide wherein said polynucleotide is selected from the group consisting of [(i)] polynucleotides having [50%] at least 95% identity to SEQUENCE ID NOS. 1-20, 1-8, 10-12, 15-20 and (ii) polynucleotides having 70% identity to SEQUENCE ID NOS. 9, 13 and 14] or complements thereof.